



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FELON SENTENCED FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARMS IN OZARK COUNTY

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a felon was sentenced in federal court today for illegally possessing three firearms.

Kevin P. McKinney, 42, who currently is incarcerated, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Scott O. Wright this morning to one year and four months in federal prison without parole, which will be served concurrent to a state sentence. He previously was convicted in Ozark County, Mo., Circuit Court for possession of methamphetamine and sentenced to seven years in state prison.

On Dec. 16, 2003, **McKinney** pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of three firearms in Gainesville, Mo. By pleading guilty, **McKinney** admitted that he was in possession of a Smith and Wesson .12 gauge sawed off shotgun, a Mauser bolt-action rifle and a JC Higgins .22 caliber bolt-action rifle on Dec. 2, 2001, in Ozark County, Mo. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm. **McKinney** has two 1980 criminal felony convictions for burglary and stealing and a 1995 criminal felony conviction for possession of methamphetamine. **McKinney** also pleaded guilty to being an unlawful user of a controlled substance in possession of a firearm.

McKinney was originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Jan. 23, 2002, in Springfield. The original indictment was later replaced by a superseding indictment, which was returned by a federal grand jury on Feb. 27, 2002, in Springfield.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard E. Monroe. It was investigated by the Missouri Division of Family Services, the Ozark County, Mo., Sheriff's Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow